

**Governor's Workforce Board RI**  
**Adjoined: Adult Education & Youth Development Committee Meeting**  
**September 15, 2016**

**Meeting Minutes**

Committee Members present: Co-Chair, Susan Rittscher, Co-Chair, Robin Coia, Nina Pande, Mario Bueno, Paul McDonald, Suzy Alba, Tim Byrne, George Nee, Bahjat Shariff, Steve Kitchin, George Nee, Suzy Alba

Other Board Members Present: Monica Dzialo,

RIDE Staff present: Dr. Philip Less, Stephen Osborn, Kim Chouinard

GWB Staff present: Heather Hudson, Dan Brown, Sherri Carello,

Others Present: Hector Riviera, Malcolm Baxter, BIS; Jill Holloway, PDC; Dr. Albert Alba, RIDOC, Sophia Tan, ILSR, Nancy Olson

Location: RIDLT Conference room 73-2

**Call to Order**

Chair Rittscher and Chair Coia called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Meeting Minutes Approval for: GWB Youth Development Committee**

Chair Coia asked for a review of the meeting minutes of June 9, 2016 Governor's Workforce Board (GWB) Youth Development Committee meeting. Chair Coia asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

**VOTE:** Paul McDonald moved to approve. Mario Bueno seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

Chair Rittscher asked for a review of the meeting minutes of June 30, 2016 Governor's Workforce Board (GWB) Adult Education & Literacy Committee meeting. Chair Rittscher asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes.

**VOTE:** Suzy Alba moved to approve. George Nee seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

**Youth and Adult Overlap**

Chair Rittscher asked Heather Hudson to provide an update. Heather highlighted some key points.

- The Committee is concerned about the overlap
- Chair Rittscher noted we are about foundational skills. Committee noted a bigger conversation needs to take place on how resources are done and look at how the 2 committees can tackle the disconnect
- Need a coordinating system

### **Update from RIDE regarding Adult Education**

Chair Rittscher asked Stephen Osborn, RIDE to provide an update. Steve highlighted the following:

- RI has a high percentage of adults without a diploma
- 15% of adults in RI don't have a high school diploma
- 35,000 working age adults have limited English skills or none at all
- 47% of RI's adult learners are actively seeking employment, but aren't currently employed
- 51% of RI's adult learners identify as Hispanic / Latino
- As of 2014 93% of Students attending RIDE Adult Ed programs were assessed to be below a high school level in literacy or numeracy
- Only 10% of young adult learners are ready for the GED compared to 34% in Massachusetts and 50% in Connecticut.
- RIDE received in state funding from the Governor's workforce Board (JDF) \$3.5 million
- Adult Ed RFP will be released for the first time in 7 years. Please would like feedback before the RFP is posted
- Chair Rittscher noted this was one of the cleanest presentations she has seen. This aligns with what we are talking about
- Chairs Coia thanked Steve Osborn and stated we definitely have some work to be done.

### **PC Youth Center Update**

Chair Rittscher asked Adrianna Dextradeur to provide an update. Adrianna noted:

- Funds were overspent last year
- Providence Youth Center will be closed, due to lack of funding
- New Staff Person at Workforce Solutions, Providence Cranston: Brian Hull
- Committee Member were concerned and asked will there be a reduction in services. Adrianna noted that everyone that visited or interacted with Providence Youth Center is asked to go to CCAP

## **CTE Pilot Program Review**

Chair Coia asked Sherri Carello, GWB, Coordinator of Employment & Training Programs to provide an update. Sherri highlighted the following key points:

- The Goal is to provide a link between the youth center system, industry (employers) and Career Technical Education Centers (CTE) to utilize the CTE facilities, after hours to provide pre-employment training programs for out of school youth, ages 18-24 years old. Heather noted this pilot program is why we should adjoint Youth and adult education committee
- Approximately \$150,000 in funds will be used for paid internship and youth incentives
- Funding: Allocation of \$500,000 in WIOA Funds, and \$300,000 in JDF funds
- Actual Expenditure: WIOA Funds were \$232,489, and \$65,063 in JDF Funds
- The target population was out-of-school youth ages 18-24, eligible for the program. Target was 69 youth served
- Youth Centers recruited in the target areas of Newport, Woonsocket, Chariho and Providence where the CTE centers were to host the training programs
- The programs offered were as follows:
  - Chariho – Construction, Cost per participant was \$3,849.30
  - Newport – Culinary Arts, Cost per participant was \$3,999.74
  - Providence – Culinary Arts, Cost per participant was \$5,474.23
  - Woonsocket – Microsoft Office Certification program, Cost per participant was \$1,667.26

Program Outcomes: Funding for the FY 2016 CTE pilot training program WIOA was \$500,000 and \$300,000 in JDF

Participant Outcomes:

86% enrolled;

65% completed;

39% Job Placements (2 individuals went back to school, 2 got jobs)

- 4579 was the total number of classroom training hours
- 2489 Total number of internship hours (8 participants completed)
- 3 out of 27 participants obtained permanent employment with their internship site
- Youth Centers Program Feedback: Some issues were, Transportation with job availability, Communication between CTE and youth, Timing of some programs was not conducive to placing them in internships
- Youth Centers Program Success was, Combined funding was great, good monetary incentive for youth, each youth got a credential

- Program Feedback from Career Tech Sites, some issues were:
  - Attendance and Tardiness
  - Need better pre-screening for program interest
  - Some equipment not returned
  - Payment was slow from the youth center
- Program Feedback from Career Tech Sites, some success were:
  - Great credentials
  - Employer sites internship

Committee members asked:

- Mario noted he would like to see a comparison of the cost to have an idea
- The CTE pilot program do we duplicate it, if it is successful
- Adrianna stated she had a meeting with CTE schools. They didn't have to turn anyone away

### **Adjournment:**

With no further business, Chair Rittscher asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**VOTE:** George Nee moved to approve. Suzy Alba seconded the motion.  
The motion was passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:01a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Brown